



A Ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

Issue #8 | October 2019

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BCH Center Staff:

Executive Director
- John Koch

Associate Director
- Jennifer Boyd

Buildings & Grounds Manager
- Caleb Baker

Bookkeeping
- Abby Holmes



A Letter From the Executive Director

Dear Friends:

It has been a stunningly beautiful autumn at the Barbara C. Harris Center. We've experienced a busy conference season hosting groups from all over New England and the nation. I've had the good fortune to lead many of our visitors on hikes around the property to enjoy the beautiful weather. There is nothing more renewing than a challenging hike, some good company, beautiful vistas, and then returning to the BCH Center for a delicious meal, a campfire and compline before bed.

The miracle of the BCH Center doesn't happen by accident. It takes a team of professionals to ensure that your stay with us is of the highest caliber and that you have every opportunity for rest and renewal. Behind the scenes are hundreds of daily acts performed by a dedicated staff to ensure your successful retreat. We operate a campus of 44 buildings, a ½ mile of waterfront, a sewer system like that of a small town, and miles of roadways. We are essentially running a small village. Anyone who keeps a household knows the constant need for repairs and maintenance to keep a home

Hospitality
- Kristen Paradis

Marketing & Development
- Jon Ingalls

Housekeeping
- Jeanne Cahoon
- Jill Girard

Food Service Director
- John Pletzer

Executive Chef
- Ryan Richard

Food Service
- Kerry Holt
- Maricel Sysyn
- Seth Stoddard
- Virginia Martin
- Robin Smolag

BCH Center Featured Staff:



Jon Ingalls
Marketing/Development

Jon joined the Barbara C. Harris Center in 2015 as part of both the facilities and guest services departments. In 2017 he adjusted his role with facilities and began focusing on marketing/development, along with guest services. With the marketing/development team, Jon has been

working to help grow the reach of the BCH Center. Redesigning the website, creating and updating the mailing lists and designing visual marketing materials for both camp and the

running. For the Barbara C. Harris Center, this is multiplied 44 times.

To help cover this expense, the BCH Center established an Annual Fund in 2012. The Annual Fund is used to ensure that our facilities and grounds are taken care of and that our facility will remain available to all, for generations to come.

In 2019 proceeds from the Annual Fund were used to support a multitude of projects and capital needs. Highlights include:

- A new reach-in refrigerator for the kitchen
- A used 4wd vehicle for housekeeping to use in the winter
- New fire exit lighting for all lodge buildings and conference rooms
- Landscaping for the courtyard
- New computers for summer camp
- Cabin siding repairs

The needs are endless.

Camp and conference ministry in general and at the Barbara C. Harris Center in particular, is something we ought not take for granted. We are so very blessed to have this facility and have an obligation to ensure its upkeep and success.

Our world is changing rapidly. So fast, that it's hard to even keep up. Places like the BCH Center remain a constant, keeping us tethered and focused on what is important. Thanks for being a part of our team. Thanks for allowing the BCH Center to remain strong and vibrant and most important, keep changing and renewing lives.

Please consider a gift to our Annual Fund. We cannot succeed without you.

Sincerely,

John Koch
Executive Director

 **DONATE NOW**

BCH Conference Center News

Parish Family Weekends at the Barbara C. Harris Conference Center!

This fall, St Paul's, Brookline, Church of the Redeemer, Lexington, Church of Our Savior, Somerset, Christ Church, Swansea and both Church of the Holy Spirit and St. Luke's of Fall River all participated in Parish family weekends at the BCH Center. Parish family weekends provide a wonderful time for fellowship, a great opportunity for people to get 'out and away' and a chance to really get to know one another. Weekend highlights often include lots of singing, eating, hiking, boating and even the occasional square dance or rousing game of Minute To Win It.

Interested in having your own parish family retreat? The BCH Center still has a few weekend openings in 2020. Give us a call, we can help you plan and find a date!

OR, what about a family reunion? A Vestry retreat? Women or Men's retreat, association meeting, nonprofit board retreat? Youth group retreat? We can host those as well!

Contact Jennifer@bchcenter.org for details and availability.

Our 2021 reservation calendar goes live on January 1st, 2020, giving you the option to book your retreat or conference group all the way out until 12/31/21!



both camp and the conference center, Jon has tried to build a standardized look to all the BCH Center marketing initiatives. Jon loves being one of the BCH Center's weekend hosts, where he gets to socialize with many different guests, from all walks of life and hear about their experiences at the Barbara C. Harris Center first hand. When Jon isn't working he enjoys spending time exploring, through traveling, hiking and camping with his wife Meagan and dog Stu.

Board of Directors:

The Rev.
Aileen DiBenedetto

Gary Fincke

Andrew Foss

The Rt. Rev.
Alan M. Gates

The Rev.
Michael Hodges

Molly Hynes

The Rev. John Kaoma

John Koch

Linda Ouellette

Dain Perry

Elizabeth Plume

Dr. Michelle Porche

The Rev.
H. Mark Smith

Bliss Austin Spooner

The Rev.
Natasha Stewart

Jonathan Treat

group all the way out until 12/31/21!



3rd Annual Winter Quilting Retreat

Friday, February 21st - Sunday, February 23rd, 2020

Have a quilt that needs finishing?
Looking to start a new project or your very first quilt?



Join us for our 3rd Annual Quilting Retreat, a fun weekend filled with laughter, new friends, great food and lots of creativity! Quilters of all abilities are welcome. This retreat is intended to give you the free time needed to begin, work on or finish a project, without any formal instruction.

This is an unstructured 3 day/2 night retreat for adult quilters of all abilities.

We are very excited to announce that Follow the Quilting Bee will be joining us for the 2020 retreat! They will have their mobile shop setup on site all weekend, with materials and

supplies for guests to view and purchase.

For more information about them, please visit www.followthequiltingbee.com

Available Lodging Options:

4-Person Adult Friendly Cabin: **\$190**

Double Occupancy Lodge Room: **SOLD OUT**

Single Occupancy Lodge Room: **SOLD OUT**

**All prices include 2 nights of lodging and 6 meals in the BCH Center Dining Hall*

[LEARN MORE](#)

Please contact Jennifer Boyd for all BCH Conference Center questions, inquiries, or to schedule a campus tour.

jennifer@bchcenter.org or (603) 547-3400

What's new at the BCH Center?

2019 Outreach Initiative

Earlier this year the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center's Executive Director, along with members of the BCH Center Board of Directors visited a number of churches throughout the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts. While attending various Sunday services, the visitors spoke and interacted with



parishioners on many levels. Whether answering questions about the BCH Center during coffee hour, addressing a Sunday school class or giving the homily from the pulpit, the Director and Board Members were prepared for whatever came their way.



The goal of these visits is outreach, or as it's referred to at the Barbara C. Harris Center "Friendraising". Friendraising is an important part of the BCH Center's ministry. We take a lot of pride in retaining and building new relationships with the churches and people of the diocese.

If you are interested in a visit from the Executive Director or a Board Member of the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in 2020, please don't hesitate to ask, we'd love to come and share about our favorite camp and conference center.

Contact Executive Director, John Koch at john@bchcenter.org



2019 BCH Summer Camp Recap

Every summer, BCH Camp brings an atmosphere to the Barbara C. Harris Center like no other. For five weeks through June and July, the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center is submersed in children's laughter, surrounded by smiles and completely overrun...by positive energy! This camp season we were once again blessed with perfect weather, great staff and of course, amazing campers.

Over the summer at BCH Camp, campers focused on learning to play and work together to accomplish a common goal. These goals were achieved in many forms like learning a dance performance, setting up a tent and cooking dinner over a fire, conquering a fear of

heights on the climbing wall, learning how to balance on a paddleboard, trying a new sport for the first time or even by learning to play a musical instrument. At BCH Camp we strive to impact the lives of as many children and young adults as we possibly can. We view our summer camp as a learning experience for both campers and all of our staff alike. While campers learn about community, faith and friendship, our staff run a parallel course, learning these same principals, along with other life skills involving professionalism, responsibility and management.

This year marked the 16th summer on the books for BCH Camp. We are so proud of what BCH Camp has become and all the lives that we have been a part of over these past 16 years. We hope that BCH Camp will continue to prepare every one of our campers and staff to go forth and better serve the world!

[LEARN MORE](#)

Summer 2019

At a Glance



Previous
Campers
Now Staff

16

Camperships
Awarded

371

\$135,585
in Camperships
Given

Total
Staff

48

Total
Campers

593



BCH CAMP

Barbara C. Harris Episcopal Camp • Greenfield, NH

We are excited to announce our 2020 BCH Camp dates!

Due to increasing interest and space filling up quickly over the past few summers, we wanted to announce the 2020 Summer Camp dates as soon as possible.

The 2020 BCH Camp dates:

BCH CAMP

Barbara C. Harris Episcopal Camp • Greenfield, NH

2020 Camp Dates!

Session 1: June 28 - July 3

Session 2: July 5 - July 10

Session 3: July 12 - July 17

Session 4: July 19 - July 24

Session 5: July 26 - July 31

WWW.BCHCENTER.ORG

Registration will open at its usual time on February 1st, 2020. Be on the lookout for the 2020 Summer Camp Brochure!

Please email Jon Ingalls (jon@bchcenter.org), to be added to the BCH Center mailing list.

Join Our Summer Camp Team!

We are now accepting applications for all 2020 BCH Summer Camp staff positions. If you are interested please [CLICK HERE](#)



BCH Center's Featured Recipe

Perfect Fall Apple Crisp





Ingredients:

- **5 Apples**
- **3/4 Cup Quick Baking Oats**
- **3/4 Cup Brown Sugar**
- **1/2 Cup All Purpose Flour**
- **1 Tsp Cinnamon**
- **1 Tsp Vanilla Extract**
- **1 Stick Butter**
- **1 Scoop French Vanilla Ice Cream**

Preparation:

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees
- Peel and thinly slice apples, lay out on lightly greased 9" x 11" (or any size) baking dish
- Sprinkle cinnamon over sliced apples
- In a mixer or large bowl, combine flour, brown sugar, oats, cinnamon and vanilla extract
- Soften butter and add to mixture
- Use hands to drop the crumble mixture on top of the apples
- Bake uncovered for 45 minutes
- Serve with a scoop of vanilla ice cream and enjoy!

BCH Camp is accredited by the American Camp Association. ACA accreditation assures parents that camp practices have met national standards around health, safety, program quality, and facilities.



Stay Connected with us:



Barbara C. Harris Camp & Conference Center | 603.547.3400 | info@bchcenter.org | <http://www.bchcenter.org>

Refresh – Reflect – Renew